

### REMARKS

Examination of the subject application in light of the present Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. For purposes of clarity only, a substitute specification is enclosed showing the changes, with new text shown as underlined, and deleted text shown as strikeout. No new matter has been added. Also, a version of the substitute specification incorporating all of the changes ("clean copy of specification") is attached after the signature page. Applicant respectfully requests entry of this preliminary amendment prior to action on the merits, and requests early allowance of all pending claims.

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920.

Respectfully submitted,

By **WELSH & KATZ, LTD.**  
  
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